(c) The total amount sanctioned under this scheme over and above committed level of expenditure during 1984-85 and 1985-86 was Rs. 46 lakhs and Rs. 41 lakhs respectively.

Pre-matric Scholarship for SC and ST Students

562. SHRI GAYA CHAND BHUYAN : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of SC/ST children who were benefited under the centrally sponsored Pre-matric Scholarship Scheme.;

(b) whether any study was made to ascetrain the impact of the scheme; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) The scheme of Prematric scholarship is intended to provide good quality of education to the children of those engaged in unclean occupations such as tanning, flaying, scavenging and sweepers who have traditional link with the job of scavenging irrespective of their caste, creed and religion. No separate data regarding SC/ST beneficiaries are maintained. However, the numbers of beneficiaries covered under this scheme during the year 1984-85 and 1985-86 were 7,720 and 9,286 respectively.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Question does not arise.

Targets for Post-matric Scholarship for SC and ST Students

563. SHRI GAYA CHAND BHUYAN : Will the the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the target for giving award under the Post -matric scholarship for 1986-87 ;

(b) whether any evalution has been made in respect of the scheme and

(c) if so, what are the shortcomings found therein and what efforts Government have made to revise the scheme ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) The scheme of Post-matric scholarships for SC and ST students is basically a reimbursement scheme. The State Governments/Union Territory Administrations are required to spend the required amount first and then claim reimbursement from the Government of India over and above the committed level of expenditure reached at the end of each Plan period. No targets have, therfore, been fixed in advance under this scheme during 1986-87.

(b) An evaluation of thisscheme was made by the 'National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration ' (NIEPA) in 1984.

(c) There was nothing new in the main findings of the study report like delay in disbursement of scholarship amount, bottlenecks experienced in the implementation of the scheme, etc. The Government have already taken remedial action to improve the working of this scheme by issuing suitable instructions to the State Governments/UT Administrations from time to time. A high Level Official Committee has also been constituted to review the working of this scheme and suggest revision of rates, income ceiling of parents/guardians, etc.

National Aluminium Companies Project in Orissa

564. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOUDHURY : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the estimated cost of the National alu-